



PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 13, 2017

1:00 P.M. – 3:00 P.M.

3839 North 3rd Street, Suite 306, Phoenix, Arizona 85012

DRAFT MINUTES

The Public Policy Standing Committee meeting of the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC) was convened Tuesday, June 13, 2017 at the ADDPC Office, 3839 North 3rd Street, Suite 306, Phoenix, Arizona 85012. Notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the ADDPC.

Members Present	
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Larry Wanger, Chairperson, Telephone

Scott Lindbloom, Telephone

George Garcia, Telephone

Jason Snead, Telephone

Katharine Levandowsky, Telephone

Members Absent

Jamie Edgin

Janna Murrell

Staff	Guests
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Erica McFadden, Executive Director

Marcella Crane, Staff

Sarah Ruf, Staff

Susie Cannata: Peters, Cannata & Moody, PLC

Jon Myers: The Arc of AZ

A. Call to Order/Welcome

Chairperson Larry Wanger welcomed everyone to the Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC or Council) Public Policy Standing Committee meeting. The meeting was called to order at 1:02 P.M. Roll call and participant introductions were completed.

B. Review of 2017 Legislative Session

The ADDPC has a contract with The Arc of Arizona to monitor the Arizona 2017 Legislative Session. They provided an update on the bills introduced and passed, and the final FY 18 budget that will impact agencies that serve persons with I/DD and their families and providers. Susie Cannata, the Arc's legislative public relations liaison, provided a summary of the session and provided these highlights. More information is found on the Council's website.

- 1054 bills were introduced this session; 342 bills were signed by the Governor; 11 bill were vetoed.
- Many bills addressed special ed; expansion of the school voucher system; ADA compliance for businesses; restoration of TANF benefits to two years for recipients, cash assistance for dependent children in foster care; and inpatient occupational therapy for AHCCCS recipients.
- This legislative session also saw a number of House Concurrent Resolutions that passed to call for a Constitutional Convention to be held, once the minimum number of states pass legislation to hold such an event. The purpose of a constitutional convention is to amend the U.S. Constitution to limit federal spending for federal revenues; enact term limits for members of congress; and to restrict federal powers, jurisdiction and fiscal authority.
- FY 18 Budget highlights is as follows: Adult dental saw an increase is \$1000 in emergency dental care for those on AHCCCS.
- A one year extension of funding for Area Agencies on Aging, to provide home and community-based services to adults 65 and over.
- \$2 million to DES, each year, to Adult Protective Services to meet demands from caseload growth.
- \$2 million to DES to provide evaluations to children 3 and under who may have developmental delays.
- \$1 million to DCS for Kinship Care, which is funding for all family members caring for a child in foster care, not just grandparents.
- \$500,000 to DHS for public health emergencies like Zika or other global health diseases.
- 2% increase for all AZ public school teachers within two years.

Due to passage of Proposition 206, Arizona's minimum wage will incrementally increase from \$8.05 per hour in 2016 to \$10.00 per hour in 2017 and to \$12.00 per hour in 2020. This took effect on January 1, 2017, and placed a lot of unknowns on business and providers that the Governor and Legislators had to address. A number of fiscal packages took effect these include the following:

- \$8.1 million in the current FY 17 to DES for immediate aid;
- \$33 million if FY 18 for minimum wage cost impacts to DES programs;
- \$9.7 million in FY 18 for minimum wage cost impacts to AHCCCS programs;
- \$200,000 in FY 18 to AHCCCS that is charged with evaluating the impact of Proposition 206 implementation on adequacy of ALTCS provider network. A report is due to the Legislature in February 2018.

C. Federal Legislative Updates

Larry Wanger and members of the committee discussed the federal draft bill to replace the Affordable Healthcare Bill (Obamacare) which will have significant cuts to current recipients that currently have health care coverage and to recipients under Medicaid. It is proposed by the Congressional Budget Office that the American Health Care Act (AHCA) will impact 23 million Americans who will lose health care coverage, and it is also estimated that the AHCA will cut \$1.5 trillion in federal spending over 10 years. If the U.S. Senate proposes the same

or similar bill and is signed by the President, the AHCA will have a devastating impact to Arizonans, including low income seniors, children, and people with disabilities that rely on Medicaid to provide basic and long term care. Medicaid helps approximately 1.7 million Arizonans receive comprehensive and affordable health care coverage. Of that number, 805,000 are children, 121,000 are seniors that rely on it to cover nursing or homecare services to help them live at home, and 176,000 are people with disabilities that need access to critical care that helps them live as independently as possible. If the AHCA passes, the burden of costs will shift to the States thereby making it harder to cover these groups and resulting in capping Medicaid services. Given that states must balance their budgets, cutting Medicaid will force Arizona legislators to cut other services, like public safety or education, propose increase in taxes or institute waiting lists, or cut basic coverage for our most vulnerable populations.

Many advocacy groups are coalescing and asking consumers to contact their congressional members to voice their concern and opposition to AHCA bill. Each consumer has a personal story to tell, and it is encouraged to get as many calls and emails to our member of congress. The Senate is currently drafting a similar bill, with no public input, and a vote is expected by July 4th. The ADDPC is encouraging consumers to advocate themselves and to call our office if they need resources to find out specific information on the bill or talking points.

Another federal legislative update is the Presidents proposed FY 18 budget that calls for the elimination of funding for the DD Councils. State Councils across the country, with our DD Network partners, are educating members of congress on the work of the Councils, and their significant impact to creating systems change and helping persons with I/DD have choice and live independently as possible through innovative programs and collaboration with other groups. Though the President's budget is draconian, Congress will have the final say in developing a budget and it is anticipated that the DD Act will not be impacted and Council funding could remain at FY 17 levels. More information will be shared with ADDPC as it becomes available.

D. Committee Members Updates

Members of the Committee provided the following updates: Katharine Levandowsky stated that the sensory program is due to have its program reviewed by their rulemaking department, updating the program as necessary. There will be public comment period and Katharine will notify the Council.

Scott Lindbloom will meet with Congressman Tom O'Halleran on June 18th in his district office. Scott is also interested in finding out which cities have an ADA Coordinator as well as which city has a disability commission. More planning and discussion is necessary to work out the details of this.

Larry Wanger discussed the upcoming self-advocacy trainings/workshops they are conducting for adults with disabilities. Classes are offered in Mohave, Coconino, Pima, Maricopa and Yuma counties. SILC is working with their other independent living centers around the state to conduct these. Our office will post this information in our newsletter and social media sites.

Erica McFadden stated that she is attending monthly meetings with behavioral health providers and emergency preparedness officials on how best to train and educate these professionals when they come into contact with persons with I/DD. Council members are welcomed to attend these meetings. In addition, Scott Lindbloom suggested we work with city disability commissions across the state. These commissions can provide information as to what is happening in their communities, as well as disseminate Council info, maximizing our impact. Larry Wanger thought there may be synergy with their self-advocacy trainings in communities across the state. Where there are no commissions, the people who have gone through the trainings can ask for them.

E. Adjourn

Larry Wanger, Chairperson called for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:50 P.M. A motion was made by Scott Lindbloom to adjourn; motion seconded by Jason Snead.

Dated this 16th day of June, 2017
Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council